



State of Idaho

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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WD 34 file

DIRK KEMPTHORNE
GOVERNOR

KARL J. DREHER
DIRECTOR

July 29, 1999

Vivian Ellwein
Route 1
Mackay, ID 83251

Re: Alder Creek Guidance Document

Dear Mrs. Ellewein,

Thank you for allowing me access through your property last week to make some measurements on Alder Creek. As per your request, I have enclosed a copy of the Alder Creek guidance document. A draft and final version of the document was sent to all Alder Creek right holders of record, the watermaster, and the Big Lost Irrigation District. I sincerely apologize for not forwarding a copy to you. I had every intention of including you on the mailing list but did not communicate adequately with my clerical staff person when preparing the list and sending the correspondence. This was entirely my fault and I am sorry for the oversight.

Since I failed to send these documents to you in a timely manner, I would welcome any comments that you wish to submit regarding this matter. I ask that you submit comments to me by August 11, 1999. I did provide a comment period to the water right holders of record before issuing the final document. I had received several comments from a few different parties, some of which were incorporated into the final document, including some of those submitted by John McCray and his attorney, Roger Ling.

Also enclosed with this letter is information about filing a late domestic and stock water use claim in the Snake River Basin Adjudication (SRBA). Please note that you will have to file a motion with the SRBA Court in Twin Falls to file a late notice of claim. You should call the SRBA Court directly at 208-736-3011 if you have further questions about filing the motion.

Finally, I would like to give you the results of the measurements I took on the creek during my visit of July 28, 1999. I current metered the creek at two locations, the first was about 125 feet below the spill structure from the Darlington Ditch, and the second was about 180 above the confluence with the Vanous Ditch. The flow in the creek just below the Darlington Ditch was 3.04 cfs (152 inches). The flow of the creek above the confluence was 1.59 cfs (79.5 inches). The loss between the two locations was -1.45 cfs (-72.5 inches), or a -47.7 percent loss. I observed that the flow in the creek above the Darlington Ditch appeared to be about twice the flow that was being spilled to Alder Creek below the ditch. It was my understanding from the watermaster that his diversion

from the creek above the Darlington Ditch had been turned off for the past few days. This may have accounted for the additional flow in the creek above the Darlington Ditch. Measuring devices to measure the creek flow above and below the Darlington had not yet been installed. I reminded the watermaster that these devices must be installed as soon as possible. I also advised that until the devices are installed, the spill to the creek from the Darlington should be equivalent to the flow of Alder Creek that is entering the ditch.

Please feel free to call me directly if you have any questions regarding the guidance document. Again, please accept my apologies for the delay in getting this document to you.

Respectfully,



Tim Luke
Water Distribution Section

Enclosure

Cc: Doug Rosenkrance, Water District 34 Watermaster
Ron Schnabel, Big Lost Irrigation District
Norman C. Young, IDWR

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